

PARTIAL PERFINS

by Reg Powell

Partial perfins are the result of damaged perforating machines or unskilled use of such machines. Often the damage is such that it is easily recognized as such but in a considerable number cases the damage causes the perfin to look like a new design.

Most common is damage to the "." on perfins. The isolated pin is susceptible to bending and once bent is often broken off when the machine is used. The best known example of this is the (crown)/BT variation of the Board of Trade perfin which is not a different design but simply an example of damage. It is known that the Boards machine had a number of almost identical dies and that a number of them suffered from defective "." pins. Examples of se-tenant pairs with and without the "." are known.

In some cases minor damage produces an apparently new identity which is sometimes catalogued an example of this is Tilles No. H779 which when compared with Tilles No. N363.3 is found to be a damage perfin rather than a new design.



The catalogue editor would be pleased to be informed of any similar examples.